

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A composition for inhibiting the growth of oral bacteria ~~comprising~~ including a bioactive agent, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said bioactive agent comprises:

about 5.0 wt% to 15 wt% of an extract of the *Centipeda* genus;

about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% coenzyme Q10;

about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% aloe vera;

about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% folic acid; and

~~a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.~~

about 2 wt% to 10 wt% Vitamin E.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition comprises about 0.5% to about 1.0% by weight of said extract of the *Centipeda* genus.

3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said extract of the *Centipeda* genus is *Centipeda cunninghami*.

4. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~[[4]]~~ 1, wherein said extract of *Centipeda cunninghami* is a holistic extract and is included in an amount effective to inhibit inflammation of oral tissue.

5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein said extract of *Centipeda cunninghami* is an alcohol soluble extract.

6. (Original) The composition of claim 5, wherein said extract of *Centipeda cunninghami* is a mixture of an alcohol soluble fraction and a water soluble fraction.

7. (Original) The composition of claim 4, wherein said composition contains about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% of an extract of *Centipeda cunninghami* as said extract of *Centipeda* genus, about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% aloe vera extract, about 0.01 wt% to about 0.1 wt% coenzyme Q10, and about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% folic acid.

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

9. (Original) The composition of claim 1, further comprising at least one component selected from the group consisting of chlorophyll KK, peppermint oil, oregano oil, lavender oil, clove bud oil, thyme oil, eucalyptus oil, cinnamon bark oil, bio-saponin concentrate, folic acid, prickly ash bark extract, calendula extract, echinacea extract, gotu kola extract, chamomile extract, olive leaf extract, black walnut hull extract, grapefruit seed extract, and green tea extract.

10. (Currently amended) ~~The A composition of claim 9~~ for inhibiting the growth of oral bacteria, wherein said composition comprises:

about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% aloe vera extract;

about 0.05 wt% to about 0.2 wt% folic acid;

about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% prickly ash bark extract;

about 1.0 wt% to about 1.5 wt% calendula extract;

about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% echinacea extract;

about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% gotu kola extract;
about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% chamomile extract;
about 0.5 wt% to about 1.0 wt% *Centipeda cunninghami* extract;
about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% olive leaf extract;
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% black walnut hull extract;
about 0.03 wt% to about 0.1 wt% grape fruit seed extract;
about 0.01 wt% to about 1.0 wt% green tea extract;
less than 0.1 wt% chlorophyll KK;
about 1.5 wt% to about 2.5 wt% peppermint oil;
about 0.2 wt% to about 1.0 wt% oregano oil;
about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% lavender oil;
about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% clove bud oil;
about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% thyme oil;
about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% eucalyptus oil;
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% cinnamon bark oil;
about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% bio-saponin; and
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% coenzyme Q10.

11. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is a liquid, cream, gel or paste.

12. (Currently amended) A bioactive agent for inhibiting the growth of oral bacteria and treating inflammation of gum tissue, comprising:

0.5 wt% to 1.0 wt% *Centipeda cunninghami* extract;

0.1 wt% to 0.4 wt% coenzyme Q10;

0.5 to 1.5 wt% aloe vera; and

0.5 wt% to 1.0 wt% folic acid.

13. (Original) The bioactive agent of claim 12, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

14. (Currently amended) The bioactive agent of claim 12, wherein said bioactive agent comprises about ~~10~~ 9 wt% to about ~~35~~ 11 wt% of said *Centipeda cunninghami* extract.

15. (Original) The bioactive agent of claim 12, wherein said *Centipeda cunninghami* extract, coenzyme Q10, aloe vera and folic acid are present in an amount effective to inhibit inflammation of oral tissue.

16. (Original) The bioactive agent of claim 12, wherein said *Centipeda cunninghami* extract is a holistic extract and contains an alcohol soluble fraction and a water soluble fraction.

17. (Currently amended) The bioactive agent of claim 12, further comprising at least one component selected from the group consisting of chlorophyll KK, peppermint oil, oregano oil, lavender oil, clove bud oil, thyme oil, eucalyptus oil, cinnamon bark oil, bio-saponin concentrate, folic acid, prickly ash bark extract, calendula extract, echinacea extract, gotu kola extract, chamomile extract, olive leaf extract, black walnut hull extract, grapefruit

seed extract, and green tea extract in an amount to inhibit the growth of oral bacteria and treat inflammation.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The A bioactive agent of claim 17, wherein said bioactive agent further comprises a carrier in an amount to provide a final composition for inhibiting growth of oral bacteria and treating inflammation of gum tissue, comprising:~~

- about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% aloe vera extract;
- about 0.05 wt% to about 0.2 wt% folic acid;
- about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% prickly ash bark extract;
- about 1.0 wt% to about 1.5 wt% calendula extract;
- about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% echinacea extract;
- about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% gotu kola extract;
- about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% chamomile extract;
- about 0.5 wt% to about 1.0 wt% *Centipeda cunninghami* extract;
- about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% olive leaf extract;
- about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% black walnut hull extract;
- about 0.03 wt% to about 0.1 wt% grape fruit seed extract;
- about 0.01 wt% to about 1.0 wt% green tea extract;
- less than 0.1 wt% chlorophyll KK;
- about 1.5 wt% to about 2.5 wt% peppermint oil;
- about 0.2 wt% to about 1.0 wt% oregano oil;
- about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% lavender oil;
- about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% clove bud oil;
- about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% thyme oil;

about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% eucalyptus oil;
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% cinnamon bark oil;
about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% bio-saponin; and
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% coenzyme Q10.

19. (Currently amended) The composition containing said bioactive agent of claim [[12]] 18, wherein said composition comprises a liquid, cream, gel or paste carrier and where said bioactive agent is included in an amount of about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt%.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 19, wherein said composition is a mouthwash, dentifrice, paste or gel.

21. (Original) The composition of claim 18, wherein said carrier comprises glycerin.

22. (Currently amended) A method of treating periodontal infection inhibiting the growth of oral bacteria and treating inflammation comprising:

topically applying a composition to a target site of an animal in need thereof in an amount effective to inhibit bacterial growth and reduce inflammation of gum tissue caused by periodontal infection, said composition including an effective amount of a bioactive agent, said composition comprising:

0.5 wt% to 1.0 wt% of a *Centipeda cunninghami* extract;

0.1 wt% to 0.4 wt% coenzyme Q10;

0.5 wt% to 1.5 wt% aloe vera; and

0.5 wt% to 1.0 wt% folic acid.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said composition comprises a carrier and where said bioactive agent is included in an amount of about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% based on the total weight of said composition.

24. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said composition is a paste or gel, and said method comprises applying said composition directly to infected gum surfaces.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said composition is an aqueous rinse and said method comprises rinsing said target site with said composition.

26. (Currently amended) The A method of claim 22 treating periodontal infection and inhibiting growth of oral bacteria and treating inflammation, wherein said composition further comprises:

about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% aloe vera extract;

about 0.05 wt% to about 0.2 wt% folic acid;

about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% prickly ash bark extract;

about 1.0 wt% to about 1.5 wt% calendula extract;

about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% echinacea extract;

about 0.25 wt% to about 0.75 wt% gotu kola extract;

about 0.75 wt% to about 1.5 wt% chamomile extract;

about 0.5 wt% to about 1.0 wt% *Centipeda cunninghami* extract;

about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% olive leaf extract;

about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% black walnut hull extract;

about 0.03 wt% to about 0.1 wt% grape fruit seed extract;
about 0.01 wt% to about 1.0 wt% green tea extract;
less than 0.1 wt% chlorophyll KK;
about 1.5 wt% to about 2.5 wt% peppermint oil;
about 0.2 wt% to about 1.0 wt% oregano oil;
about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% lavender oil;
about 0.1 wt% to about 0.5 wt% clove bud oil;
about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% thyme oil;
about 0.05 wt% to about 0.1 wt% eucalyptus oil;
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% cinnamon bark oil;
about 0.5 wt% to about 1.5 wt% bio-saponin; and
about 0.02 wt% to about 0.1 wt% coenzyme Q10,
wherein each of said extracts are included in an effective amount to treat inflammation and inhibit growth of oral bacteria.

27. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said bioactive agent comprises about 10 wt% to 35 wt% *Centipeda cunninghami* extract, about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% coenzyme Q10, about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% folic acid, and about 10 wt% to about 35 wt% aloe vera gel.

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein said bioactive agent further comprises at least one component selected from the group consisting of chlorophyll KK, peppermint oil, oregano oil, lavender oil, clove bud oil, thyme oil, eucalyptus oil, cinnamon bark oil, bio-saponin concentrate, folic acid, prickly ash bark extract, calendula extract,

echinacea extract, gotu kola extract, chamomile extract, olive leaf extract, black walnut hull extract, grapefruit seed extract, and green tea extract in an amount to inhibit the growth of oral bacteria and treat inflammation.

29. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein said bioactive agent further comprises Vitamin E.